

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Furthermore, Sinclair illustrates it's extreme partisan agenda by attempting to air a program that tries to sell an ideology that one man is responsible for the Vietnam mess. Kerry has a record that surpasses Bush's ... actually we can't find Bush's. Lies are lies. Truths are truths. Sinclair fails twice there and also last Spring when they failed to run the program featuring the names of our fallen American soldiers in Iraq. If Sinclair hates the military and the men and women who serve it, fine. But why can't they keep that opinion to themselves?